

HAMLYN'S

MENAGERIE

MAGAZINE.

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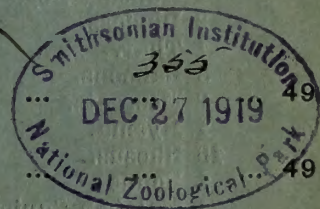
No. 7.—Vol. 5.

NOVEMBER, 1919.

Price One Shilling.

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Telegrams: "HAMLYN, LONDON DOCKS, LONDON."

Telephone: 4360 AVENUE.

JOHN D. HAMLYN,

221, St. George's Street, London Docks, E. 1.

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Arrivals of Wild Animals in Great Britain.

Commencing January, 1919.

COMPILED BY JOHN D. HAMLYN.

BOSTOCK—

May, 1919. 1 Leopard, with few small African animals.

HAMLYN—

February. 1 Mandrill.

3 Monkeys.

March. 4 Baboons.

1 Serval.

1 Cinet.

13 Pandas.

1 Cat.

400 Monkeys.

April 4 Sea Lions.

May 2 Zebras.

6 Porcupines.

1 Hunting Dog.

2 Dingoes.

1 Thar.

8 Baboons.

2 Meercats.

June. 1 Hyæna.

15 Rhesus.

1 Bonnet.

1 Malabar Squirrel.

1 Hamadrias Baboon.

21 Penguins.

July. 8 Seals, 11 Mynahs, 120 Avadavats, 1 Squirrel Monkey, 50 Rattlesnakes 51 Bull Snakes, 20 Corais, 16 Testaceous Snakes, 120 Imported Australian Finches, 3 Black Swans, 16 imported African Finches, 2 Blue Budgerigars, 1 Monster Egyptian Mongoose, 1 Squirrel Monkey, 1 Vervet, 1 Ringtail, 6 Polar Bear Cubs direct from The North Cape.

For arrivals (Oct.) see "The Trade."

WORLD'S ZOOLOGICAL—

January. Nil.

February. Nil.

March. Nil.

April. Nil.

May. Nil.

June. Nil.

July. Nil.

August. Nil.

September. Nil.

October arrivals:—

1 Rcan.

1 White Oryx.

2 Gazelles.

1 Lion, 3—4 years old, shewing mane.

2 Lion Cubs.

1 Jackal.

15 Baboons.

1 Tortoise.

1 Python.

2 Cheetahs.

1 Leopard Cub.

1 Spotted Hyaena.

1 Vulture.

5 Monkeys.

5 Cranes.

4 Ostriches.

4 Pelicans, and some Storks.

THESE ARE THE ACTUAL IMPORTATIONS.

JOHN D. HAMLYN

Hamlyn's Menagerie Magazine.

EDITED BY JOHN D. HAMLYN

No. 7.—Vol. 5.

LONDON, NOVEMBER, 1919.

PRICE ONE SHILLING

NOTICE.

The subscription for Vol. V., 1919—20, is 10/—, post free. All subscriptions commence with this number. Yearly subscriptions only received. Specimen copies can be sent post free on receipt of twelve penny stamps. Subscribers not receiving their Magazine should communicate at once with the Editor.

All letters to be addressed in future:—

JOHN D. HAMLYN,

**221, St. George's Street, London Docks, E 1,
London.**

Telepaone, Avenue 4360.

Telegrams, Hamlyn, London Docks, London.

The Editor will be pleased to receive sporting articles and reminiscences, as well as items of news and reports of sport from all parts of the world. If stamped directed envelope be enclosed, the contributions will be returned if unsuitable.

THE TRADE.

By JOHN D. HAMLYN.

The most important arrival this month has been the S.S. "Malakand," from Calcutta.

Mr. W. T. Page received:—

3 Magpies.

6 Minahs.

2 Hornbills.

2 Vultures.

Mr. Henning received:—

1 Ourang Outang.

1 Golden Rhesus.

1 Wanderoo.

1 Pigtailed.

Messrs. Cross had 50 Mongooses shipped; not one arrived alive.

There were also 4 Shamahs, 4 Drongas, 4 Mynahs.

I am sorry not to have mentioned before the arrival home of Mr. Frost from New Guinea.

I understand the consignment was for Lord Tavistock. The Birds of Paradise, Pitta, Wallace's Fruit Pigeons, with others, remain at the Zoological Gardens, while the remainder were sent to the Isle of Wight. I understand there are some new specimens, also many very rare Parrots and Parrakeets. Mr. Frost has my congratulations on his safe return, after such a lengthy visit to the East.

The famous Bronx Park Zoological Society of New York are re-stocking the Zoological Gardens, Antwerp.

This shipload is the fulfilment of a promise made two years ago by Dr. William T. Hornaday, Director of the Bronx Zoological Gardens, that the moment the war was over he would ship the animals to Antwerp.

Three hundred and sixty-nine animals of 162 species are being sent. They consist of sixty-eight individual mammals of forty-one species; 232 birds representing 103 species, and sixty-nine reptiles of eighteen species. Most of the animals were born at the Zoological Gardens.

Another cargo is to leave shortly, consisting of jaguars, bears, bison and bulls, deer, sheep, goats, a chimpanzee, and monkeys.

The first arrival since 1914 of Italian Goldfish arrived here on November 26th. 5,500 were despatched. 4,800 arrived alive, the mortality being due to a defective tin, otherwise the fish arrived in good condition. They were sold in one lot.

The Kangaroos shipped by Mr. E. Bone, of Adelaide, are now on deposit at the Zoological Gardens, Regents Park. They are four very fine animals, and well worth inspecting. It is the largest White Kangaroo that I have ever seen.

The Central News, Port Elizabeth, correspondent sends the following:—

The head of the local museum here has received information from a Mr. Lepage, who was in charge of railway construction in the Belgian Congo, of an exciting adventure last month. While Lepage was hunting one day in October he came upon an extraordinary monster, which charged at him. Lepage fired but was forced to flee, with the monster in chase. The animal before long gave up the chase and Lepage was able to examine it through his binoculars. The animal, he says, was about 24ft. in length, with a long pointed snout adorned with tusks like horns and a short horn above the nostrils. The front feet were like those of a horse and the hind hoofs were cloven. There was a scaly hump on the monster's shoulders.

The animal later charged through the native village of Fungurume, destroying the huts and killing some of the native dwellers. A hunt was at once organized, but the Government has forbidden the molestation of the animal, on the ground that it is probably a relic of antiquity. There is a wild trackless region in the neighbourhood, which contains many swamps and marshes, where, says the head of the museum, it is possible that a few primeval monsters may survive.

The Central News, Johannesburg, also sends the following :—

A well-known big game hunter, in a letter to the Press, states that some years ago he shot a huge animal in Uganda resembling the beast lately reported from the Belgian Congo.

The carcase was carried away by the driver before he was able to reach it.

I have never doubted the existence of monsters in the Central African swamps.

Fifteen years ago when collecting in the Transvaal I had an interesting account of a monster, described as half snake, half beast. My informant who was in the Rhodesian Police, was patrolling in Barotseland, and approached within a hundred yards of the beast who was asleep on the borders of a swamp. It was, he declares, 100 feet long, and so startled him, that it glided off into the swamp before he could raise his gun. It travelled quite noiselessly, but with great speed. The country roundabout was quite unexplored, the haunt of Hippos and Waterbuck. My informant kept the information to himself, and assured me that I was the first to whom he had mentioned it.

The "Illustrated London News," November 22nd, has a "Reconstruction Drawing by Forestier" of the biggest of all Quadrupeds—Gigantosaurus." The bones of this reptile were

discovered in East Africa in 1912 and taken to Berlin.

Should any of my readers desire to discover new animals and reptiles, I should advise them to pay a visit to Fernan Faz and Sette Cama, proceed from thence to the interior, the major portion of which country has never been explored; there they will find the Water Elephant, the Giant Snakes, the Old Man Gorillas—the latter in abundance.

FRENCH IMPORTS.

The arrivals in France—Bordeaux, Havre and Marseilles—are commencing.

There have been Senegal birds and animals, Chinese, Indian and Mexican birds at the various ports.

It really seems that the French trade will soon revert to normal times.

SOUTH AFRICAN IMPORTS.

On or about December 8th I shall receive a collection from a private collector in the Transvaal district which deserves more than passing notice.

There are White-bellied Sunbirds, Claret-breasted Sunbirds, Hornbills, Thrushes, Barbets, Whydahs, Lowries, Larks, and 350 mixed Finches, also three kinds of Suricates, with two Rock Rabbits: fourteen boxes in all. A really wonderful collection worthy of inspection by every amateur.

There is also a rumour of another consignment of African mixed Finches being brought home privately. I have no other information on the matter as regards ownership or when due here.

COLLECTING AGENTS.

My clients can be sure of large arrivals of foreign birds during 1920.

I have three collectors out—one in Cuba, one in Transvaal district, and one in Cape Colony. On and after February, 1920, there should be three arrivals monthly. I have also arranged for small supplies of Australian birds every two months.

The Indian consignments will not commence until end of February.

SENEGAL STOCK.

I have received a very interesting letter from a correspondent in Dakar. Here are some extracts from the letter :—

"If what you wish to know is why I cabled you instead of any other of the London Zoological people, the simple explanation is that you were the only one I had any exact knowledge of, and that knowledge came to me only very recently in newspaper cuttings sent me by my wife in reference to a bit of a controversy you had with another Zoologica Company.

"As I expect to be home very shortly when I will do myself the honour of calling on you, it is unnecessary for me to enter deeply into details concerning myself here. For the moment suffice it to say that I have spent best part of half my lifetime in the interior of Africa as a hunter and trader, and came out here in March last on salary and commission.

"For various reasons . . . I was compelled to resign and started business on my own account.

"My first deal was the purchase of animals given you in my first cable—Lions, Ostriches, Hyaenas, Giraffe, etc.

I left the animals with the Frenchman I bought them from, while I went into the Sudan after a pair of Giraffe that were there, and while I was there the Frenchman I bought the animals from sold them to another party who had just arrived from England. They had sailed for France just before I returned to the Coast.

"As I held the man's signed and stamped receipt for the money I had paid him, I at once put the matter in the hands of a local lawyer. The case was settled out of Court. I agreed to accept the refund of the money I paid for the animals, plus 2,000 francs.

"Sorry you cannot make an offer for the full grown Giraffe. Must get a good price for this one as he has cost me a good deal more than I bargained for.

"Lost the female Giraffe crossing a large river up country. Shipping this one to England or France first steamer, and will sell him first reasonable offer I get after he arrives in Europe.

"In reference to your remark about paying £50 for a young giraffe in Senegal being sufficient I may say that what one pays for such animals affects the case but little, as the real expense is the going inland after them, and the long journey to the Coast after you get possession of them. You will understand they are not found along the sea beach.

"Present giraffe is exceptional inasmuch as he is a full grown specimen that has grown to maturity in his natural bush. I have be-

fore now been offered a young giraffe for nothing, and had to refuse acceptance on account of difficulties of getting it to a sea port being more than it was worth, and at other times had them offered me in places where £50 was cheap on account of transport facilities. I have led present giraffe on the end of a rope over 500 miles to the Coast, and he is by a very long way the biggest giraffe ever I have had in my possession alive. He is quite tame, but for all that gives quite a lot of work in getting him to go the way one wants him.

"I will endeavour to bring you a few thousand Senegal birds on my return. Would also be prepared to get you any other animals you require.

"Thanking you for your photo in which I see you include our next of kin, the Chimp.

"Yours sincerely."

This is one of the most interesting letters I have ever received from the Coast. I only trust Mr. ——— will write me again soon.

WORLD'S ZOOLOGICAL COMPANY.

My esteemed friend, Mr. W. T. Henning, who landed the consignment of animals at Cardiff takes exception to some of my statements in the October number. He complains that my list was not quite correct, that no valuable animals died, and assures me that the cost of transport from Brest to London was only about £100. He also feels sure there will be a profit on this transaction.

With the greatest amount of respect to this gentleman—I still have my doubts.



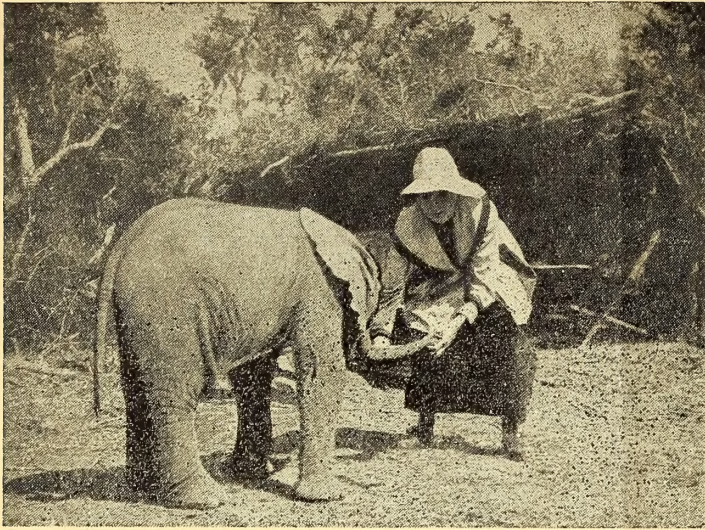
THE ADDO BUSH ELEPHANTS.

By JOHN D. HAMLYN.

The following correspondence will, I am sure, interest my readers, also the photographs which are the first to be published shewing the Addo Bush Elephant in its natural surroundings.

I greatly appreciate the photographs, also the interesting account of my representative's trip with Major Pretorius in the Addo Bush.

An American traveller for a world-famous Institution paid me a visit the other day and blandly enquired whether the purchase was not "an imagination of my versatile mind." He now sees for himself the actual baby elephant, and after reading Shaw's account should apologise for doubting my statement as to purchase, death, etc.



No. 1.—Mrs. Pretorius and Baby Elephant "Jumbo."

I am sorry to say that I always hear great dissatisfaction with consignments other than my own. They are taken away, and the unfortunate Butcher, Steward or Officer hears nothing more from owners of the stock. This is the principal cause why live stock is objected to on the various mail steamers homeward.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

No. 1.—Mrs. Pretorius and Baby Elephant, "Jumbo."

No. 2.—Major and Mrs. Pretorius with Jumbo for which my representative paid £120, the actual value not being £50 there.

No. 3.—Jumbo with his Boy fast asleep.

No. 4.—First elephant shot in Addoo Bush by Major Pretorius.

These are the first photographs to arrive from the Addoo Bush of which I am very proud. Mr. S. W. Shaw has my thanks accordingly. He is also thanked for the two letters below.

C/o Major Pretorius,
Addo, C.P.

Oct. 20th, 1919.

Dear Governor,

Enclosed is a story of my accompanying Major Pretorius on one of his hunts after Addo Elephants. I consider it an honour as I am the only white man who has ever taken into the Bush up to the present.

The baby elephant was not the one I bought. This second one unfortunately died but altogether different from the first, as he showed signs of gradually weakening. I had not taken him over.

Enclosed are three photographs of our Baby whose sudden loss I still feel. Also the first Addo Elephant shot by Major Pretorius in carrying out the Extermination Order.

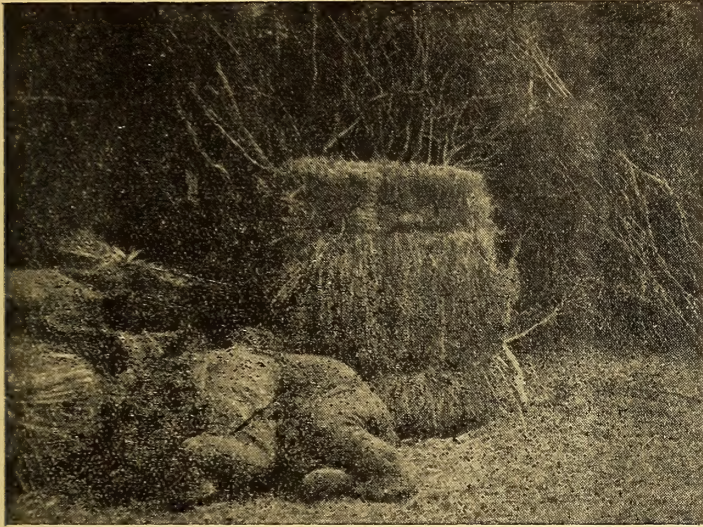
The photographs are numbered. 1 and

I paid £120 for Baby Jumbo directly he left the Bush and entered the camp. Poor Jumbo died shortly afterwards. I have naturally appealed to the Provincial Secretary for a substantial allowance, and doubtless in due time will receive a favourable answer.

In the previous number I stated that Shaw should never have paid such a figure for a baby elephant. Fifty pounds would have been ample, even then it could not have been delivered in London under £300 to include every expense. It is quite evident that Wild Animal Expenses are not understood by would-be buyers. They argue that an animal costing, say, £100 abroad, should be delivered here for £150 or £200. They forget the multitude of expenses the unfortunate dealer has to pay Travelling Expenses, Boxing, Food, Railway Steamer and Shipping charges; there is finally a recompense to be given to the man in charge on its way home.



No. 2.—Major and Mrs. Pretorius with "Jumbo."



No. 3.—"Jumbo" with his Boy, fast asleep.

hunt, horses were saddled for the Major and myself.

Having partaken of coffee a start was made at about 6 a.m., the air being very keen our thick woollen sweaters were much appreciated.

After riding through open country for a matter of about an hour, we struck the thick of the Bush, the boys making a path by cutting away with their axes. We had not gone far, however, when we found riding impossible, and we had to dismount. Pushing our way through the Bush we came to a water-hole where elephants were known to frequent. No results were obtained, however, as no fresh spoor was showing, so we retraced our steps back to the clearance. On this part of our journey a jackal was heard to scream, the dogs were turned loose, and one Geoff, a born hunter, was away several minutes, returning with traces of combat in the form of blood around the jaws. It is remarkable how the Major's dogs do enjoy the hunt, just as much as the people who take part, and in some cases, more so.

Resuming our journey we once again strike the thick Bush, which is thick with a vengeance. It is much as one can do to get through at all, and clothing unless of a very special nature does not stand any great amount of chance. The boys had to cut a path in numerous places, the horses having to be led as riding was impossible.

We at last reached a path which ran alongside a fence enabling us to ride, the procession moving in single file. Here there were numerous traces of damage done by elephant. About 9 a.m. we reached a stretch of open veldt with a water hole in the centre; here we found traces of fresh spoor, showing elephant had been around a few hours previous. The party halted and breakfast was served which, after our early morning ride, sure did taste good. The chops being grilled over a

2 show him being fed with a bottle by Mrs. Pretorius; No. 2 shows Major Pretorius standing by him. No. 3 shows him having a sleep. No. 4 is the first Elephant shot.

Should this story and photographs be of interest to readers of your Magazine I trust they may find a place.

Yours very truly,

SIDNEY W. SHAW.



ELEPHANT HUNTING TRIP WITH
MAJOR PRETORIUS,
SEPTEMBER 8TH, 1919, FROM KENKELBOSCH.

By SIDNEY W. SHAW.

5 a.m. in the morning the whole camp was astir. The boys prepared for the day's



No. 4.—First Elephant shot in Addo Bush by Major Pretorius.

wood fire, all this makes the wild life which the hunter only knows more enjoyable than ever. What a glorious change! The freedom one perceives, to be away from the formality of city-life with its white table cloths and serviettes. To be able to sit on a log and eat with what nature provided, namely, fingers; and no one to pass remarks about bad behaviour.

The meal over we are on the move again, the boys tracking the spoor, the dogs tugging away at their chains knowing excitement is near at hand. Again striking the thick Bush, my clothes, which had already begun to show signs of bad treatment, suffered more than ever, and two large rents soon showed themselves in the jacket (luckily an old one). Little did I think when I bought that very suit a few years ago in Los Angeles, Cal., U.S.A., I would end its career chasing elephants in the Addo Bush, but one never knows what fate has in store.

Signs now begin to show of the close proximity of the herd. The Major mounts his portable observation ladder which is always taken along, and with an experienced eye scans the Bush, determining by what seems instinct gained by years of experience, the exact part where the elephants were to be found. Resuming the chase we soon heard rumbling sounds; we now knew the close vicinity of our quarry; everyone is alert and rifles are ready for immediate action.

When hunting elephant the direction of the wind has to be most carefully observed, and on this particular day it was very variable, which caused the herd to get our scent and arouse suspicion. By careful movement, however, we got close up to them unobserved. There were about twenty, young and old. The one nearest the Major soon got the benefit of the .550 Express bullet which dropped him never to rise again; another was hit and lay for several seconds but managed to get up and move off. Immediately firing started the herd let out a terrific scream which rent the whole Bush, and broke up. We then followed up the blood spoor of the wounded elephant which was bleeding very freely. We had not gone far before we encountered a fine young bull sniffing the air. We were about nine yards away when we first spotted him. Soon as he saw us, he trumpeted loudly and charged. It was now a moment when the utmost presence of mind was required, a false move and all would be over for at least one of us. The Major immediately dropped on the knee, as owing to a tree being just between him and the elephant a stand up shot was impossible so he had to fire through a space between the branches, and once again the .550 did its work well. The first shot through the skull dropped him but not fatal. He was just getting up when a second well placed shot found

the brain and all was over. All this was the work of a few seconds, but what those seconds meant can only be realised by those present. The distance was exactly six paces.

I would here like to state that the Major follows the motto of all true sportsmen: "Hunt to kill but not to torture," although wounding an animal and its getting away is unavoidable as this story will show.

Many people do not seem to realise the danger of hunting in the Addo Bush. There are no long range shots, except by a great off chance. Before you see the elephants you have to get right close up, and the maximum distance one can reach is about twelve yards. So you see if you are charged by more than one, it is a case of watch your step.

We now continued our tracking of the wounded cow elephant but could not find her. The amount of blood she was losing showed she must have been badly wounded but our search was futile.

Returning to the first elephant the boys were set to work on the operation of removing the inside. Flags were placed above the Bush over each elephant to mark their respective positions to be found the following day. Major and myself then partook of some coffee from a Thermos flask which in our parched condition was very welcome. The boys drank blood from the stomach which, according to the native idea, will make them strong like an elephant. The dogs were so parched that they could not work, so water from the stomach was a welcome drink to them.

Leaving the boys to work on the elephant, search for the wounded one is resumed, but in spite of considerable blood spoor we could not find the brute. While on this search, all of a sudden the dogs start barking, indicating some animal had been located, which we at first thought must be the wounded one.

Proceeding to the spot as quick as possible, we heard the shriek of what we knew was a young elephant, and made the capture, the Major grabbing him by the tail. He was a little chap, just over three feet high, and his hide was almost white, as nearly a White Elephant as anyone I ever saw. Unfortunately the little chap was injured in the shoulder but not badly, and the Major considered it would soon be all right. The little fellow soon made friends and followed us through the Bush just like a dog. This was about 2.30 p.m.

We next determined to return to camp and let a few of the boys bring the baby along, the remainder finishing off the work on the dead

elephants. We had a good gallop back as soon as we reached the open road, arriving at about 5 p.m. where we were anxiously awaited by Mrs. Pretorius and a number of gentlemen attached to the Smithsonian African Expedition from Washington, D.C. Our adventures of the day were duly related to the group of interested listeners, and a good cup of coffee with something to eat satisfied the inner man, as we sure felt hungry.

I was a mass of rags and tatters causing no little amusement. The only thing I can think of for this Bush is leather, and even that suffers, as the Major's riding breeches indicated.

The boys with the baby returned about 8 p.m., when it was fed on milk and rice, soon making friends with everyone present.

Taking our seats around the ever welcome camp fire, more coffee was served while the Major related some of his numerous adventures which make the life of a hunter worth living.

At 10 p.m. the party broke up to retire for the night, to get a good sleep and rest, so as to be prepared for the strenuous work of the following day.

There appears to have been two elephants, both of which died shortly after capture.

The Cape papers state that £12,000 is being paid for their destruction. To my mind a fabulous sum for a most unworthy purpose.

"Hamlyn's Menagerie Magazine" was the first paper in Great Britain to protest against this wanton slaughter, and now the "Times" and the "Field" follow suit.

Mrs. F. E. Blaaw, writing to the "Field," states:—

"Sir,—Ever since I visited South Africa in the spring of 1914 I have tried hard to prevent the projected extermination of the Addo Bush elephants. What is mentioned in the "Field" of November 1 as the real cause of the extermination that is now going on agrees with the information I received when in Port Elizabeth. The reason is greed of the surrounding landowners, who have encroached on the Reserve and taken possession of the water supply of the elephants. They say that the elephants are dangerous, and have killed a man. This is quite true, but the reason of their being dangerous is that they are continually being shot at, and the man who was killed met his fate whilst out to kill an elephant. It served him right!

"Can, even now, nothing be done to save the last remnant of the herd?"

"I am told that it is proposed to catch the young animals alive and to transfer them to the Knysna. I am afraid that this so-called humane measure will have not the slightest result to save the animals.

"What will the young helpless creatures do in a strange place deprived of their dams and of the milk they want?"

"They will surely either die or wander away and be killed.

"The Kynsna contained wild elephants at one time, and they were supposed to be protected there, but in 1914 the warden of the Reserve informed me that not a single elephant was left!

"Surely there is land enough in South Africa that the Addo Bush may be spared to the elephants.

F. E. BLAAW.

"Gooilust, Holland."



WILD BEAST SHOWS IN PARIS.

By E. J. BELL.

After five years of war Paris is en fete again, and the laughter-loving Parisienne can once more enjoy his Fair and Carnival.

Here, on the Boulevard Richard Lenier, stretching from the Place de la Republique to the Place de la Bastille, we find merry-go-rounds, swings, and attractions too numerous to mention.

The shows that have suffered most are the Wild Beast Shows of Paris. In the good old days, "avant la guerre," we had at least twenty animal shows and menageries, but alas! to-day we could number them on one hand.

Les Freres Ben Amar, with 3 lions, 2 brown bears and one hyaena.

Marcel's Menagerie, with six lions, 2 brown bears, 2 hyaenas, 2 monkeys, and last, but by no means least, Frankie, with a fine troupe of lions, well presented.

All are doing fair business considering the terrible inclemency of the weather just now.

GENERAL NOTES.

THAT Mr. Reel, of Wilson and Reel, Taxidermists, say the "Tanga Post," has just returned from a shooting safari, and we noticed amongst his bag a pair of elephant tusks, two pairs of rhino horns, and a fine variety of "heads," amongst which the gurnuk and oryx were the most conspicuous. Mr. Reel reported unsuccessfully endeavouring to get within gunshot of an elephant known to the natives as "mzee" (old man)—believed to be the largest tusker known. He will shortly make a further attempt.

THAT during mail week the native population of Malindi was in terror owing to the performances of a large man-eating leopard which was haunting both road and mainland. So far as was known the animal had not been seen by Europeans, but its depredations had included the slaughter of four natives. When the mail left a hunting party was being organised.

THAT a warning has been issued in Graff-Reinet that a large baboon has taken up its abode near the Willow Walk, a place frequented by the townspeople. Solitary baboons which have been driven from the herd are frequently dangerous. A farmer in the neighbourhood reports that he has from three to four hundred baboons on his property, which have taken to eating ostrich chicks.

THAT the rate at which the destruction of vermin is proceeding in the Graff-Reinet district is disclosed by the fact that this Divisional Council has paid out £576 15s. for the period from 4th July, 1918, to 30th June, 1919, the number of animals destroyed being: 974 jackals, 69 lynxes and 365 baboons.

THAT "Nature" states:—

In an able and very valuable summary of the mammals in the Melbourne Zoological Park Dr. W. H. D. Le Souef, the Director, contrives to give a lively description of all the more important indigenous mammals of Australia. As might have been expected, he adds some very interesting facts to what is known of the life-histories of these animals. Throughout he is constantly insisting on the need for legislation to stay the work of the exterminator. Over

vast tracts of country some species have become absolutely wiped out. It is not a little disconcerting indeed to learn that the skins of wallabies and kangaroo are exported by the hundred thousand, for this means that vested interests are sure to beget strenuous opposition to the proposal which has been made to frame protective measures to secure the survival of at least a remnant of this remarkable fauna. But we trust this legislation will be speedily effected, or it will come too late. An additional toll upon this fauna is levied by the dogs, foxes, and cats, which have been introduced by settlers, and in many cases have become feral. This memoir, which is illustrated by a number of very beautiful photographs, is issued by the New York Zoological Society.

THAT a correspondent at Christiania states:—

The fifty-fifth birthday of a captive eel was celebrated in the aquarium of the zoological garden here by a company consisting of the members of the Zoological Society and their friends.

The eel was caught in a creek in the suburbs of this city by Dr. Clement Nilssen. It was then no longer than an average earth worm. It is now nearly two feet in length and three inches in diameter.

THAT the following offer appeared in the "Times" of the 27th inst. :—

A PERSON WANTED to LOOK AFTER a BABY GORILLA; wage, 30s. per week. Apply "Alyse," 15, Sloane Street, Knightsbridge.

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